

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 06018 301352Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06
AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15
/130 W

-----113286 301843Z/45

R 301331Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9476
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 1080

CONFIDENTIAL JIDDA 6018

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD
COMMON FUND MEETING NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2

REF: STATE 191312

1. LEAD AGENCY FOR SAG IN CONSIDERING UNCTAD ISSUES HAS IN PAST BEEN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MINISTRIES OF FINANCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SAUDI BUREAU-
CRACY IS SO AMORPHOUS HOWEVER THAT WE ARE USUALLY UNABLE TO IDENTIFY IF OR WHERE FORMAL INTER-MINISTERIAL POSITIONS ARE ADOPTED, OR HOW CLOSELY SAUDI DELEGATES ARE BOUND BY THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. WE KNOW THAT, IN PAST, SAUDI DELEGATES HAVE GENERALLY BEEN GIVEN CONSIDERABLE LEEWAY IN INTERPRETING THEIR INSTRUCTIONS, AND ADVISED PRIMARILY TO STAY CLOSE TO ARAB GROUP AND GROUP-77 CONSENSUS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. SAG, NONETHELESS, INCREASINGLY HAS DIRECT INSTERESTS IN ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION, AND HAS BEGUN TO PLAY MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN UNCTAD TYPE FORA. AS RESULT, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT SAG IS ATTEMPTING TO TIGHTEN
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UP ITS INTERNAL COORDINATION, BUT PRESENT HAZARD AND ELEVENTH-HOUR METHODS OF REACHING POSITIONS AND INSTRUCT-
ING DELEGATES WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE SAG MODUS OPERANDI.

2. UPHOT OF ABOVE IS THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO INFLUENCE SAG POSITIONS ON SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE OR

TACTICAL ISSUES PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF DELEGATIONS. WE WILL TRY TO EXPLAIN USG POSITIONS THROUGH OUR REGULAR CONTACTS, BUT IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT FOR US TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH SAUDI DELEGATIONS AT CONFERENCES.

3. WE WOULD NEVERTHELESS WELCOME VISIT BY EXPERT ON UNCTAD AND COMMON FUND ISSUES. SAG IS LIKELY TO BE HEAVY CONTRIBUTOR TO ANY SPECIAL FUND (THROUGH OPEC FUND AND PERHAPS OTHERWISE), AND FULL DISCUSSION OF ISSUES HERE COULD IMPROVE SAG UNDERSTANDING OF ISSUES AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS DELEGATION. VISIT WOULD ALSO SUPPORT OUR GOAL OF ENGAGING SAG MORE IN DIALOGUE ON DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE ISSUES. WE BELIEVE VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL ANY TIME UP TO OCTOBER 20 AND PERHAPS THE LATER THE BETTER; SAG, ITSELF, UNLIKELY TO ADDRESS ISSUE SERIOUSLY MUCH BEFORE THEN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977089/aaaaahhn.tel
Line Count: 80
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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